Commonly Confused Words in the English Language

Learning English can be difficult, especially when there are so many words that are very similar to each other. Sometimes words can sound the same, are spelled in similar ways, or have similar meanings. Here is a chart you can use to help identify their differences!

Commonly Confused Words In Grammar	Definition	Examples of How to Use the Word
• Other (adjective) /'ʌðə/ ⇒ Another (adjective) /ə'nʌðə/	• Further, additional, more, extra ⇒ In addition to something else ⇒ Refers to something different	• Do you have any other questions? ⇒ I'm going to eat another sandwich. ⇒ Can you meet with me on another day?
• Specially (adverb) /'speʃəlɪ/ ⇒ Especially (adverb) /ɪ'speʃəlɪ/	• For a special purpose ⇒ Used to single out something ⇒ Very much, a great extent	• I had these shoes specially made for my feet. ⇒ I need you to bake a lot of cookies for the party, especially chocolate chip cookies. ⇒ This chart is especially useful for students who are learning English.
• Affect (verb) /ə'fekt/ ⇒ Effect (noun) /ɪ'fekt/	• To act on or make a change in ⇒ A result or consequence	• The cold weather affected all of the plants, they all turned brown and died. ⇒ Staying up late to watch TV had a bad effect on my final exam grade.
• Accept (verb) /ək'sept/ ⇒ Except (preposition) /ɪk'sept/	• To receive something or agree to something ⇒ To exclude, set apart, or to set aside	• I accept your apology. Thank you for your kindness. ⇒ I have done all of my homework except for my math homework, I hate that class.
• Breath (noun) /'breθ/ ⇒ Breathe (verb) /'bri:ð/	• The air that we inhale and exhale ⇒ The action of inhaling (breathing in) and exhaling (breathing out)	• I was so stressed before I gave my speech, but when I took a deep breath I felt better. ⇒ When Joe burned his food the room filled with smoke and I couldn't breathe.

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• Than (conjunction & preposition) /ˈðæn/ ⇒ Then (adverb) /ˈðen/	• Used in expressions introducing an exception or contrast. ⇒ After that; next; afterward.	• I am much taller than my younger sister. ⇒ I have to go to class, then I can go out to dinner.
• Their (determiner)/ˈðeə/ ⇒ There (adverb) /ˈðeə/ ◊ They're (contraction) /ˈðeə/	• Belonging to something or someone ⇒ Describing the position or location of something/someone ◊ Contraction of "They are"	• Once the students finish their test they can have recess. ⇒ I asked my mom where my purse is and she replied, "right there!" as she pointed to the table. ◊ They're running very fast!
• To /ˈtuː/ ⇒ Too (adverb) /ˈtuː/ ◊ Two (number) /ˈtuː/	• Expressing motion in the direction of (a particular location) ⇒ In addition, also ◊ The number (2)	• I am going to the mall. ⇒ I love pizza too! ◊ I have two dogs.
• Your (determiner) /ˈjɔː/ ⇒ You're (contraction) /ˈjɔː/	• Belonging to or associated with someone ⇒ Contraction of "You are"	• Is this your textbook? ⇒ You're going to be late if you don't get out of bed right now!
• Who (pronoun) /ˈhuː/ ⇒ Whom (pronoun) /ˈhuːm/	• What or which person or people ⇒ Used instead of "who" as the object of a verb or preposition.	• Who is that girl? ⇒ Whom did you call?
• Its (determiner) /ˈɪts/ ⇒ It's (contraction) /ˈɪts/	• Belonging to or associated with something ⇒ Contraction of "It is"	• The milk is past its expiration date. Now it is spoiled. ⇒ I can't believe it's already Friday! This week went by quickly.
• Seen (verb) /ˈsiːn/ ⇒ Saw (verb) /ˈsɔː/	• Past participle of the verb "to see" ⇒ Past tense of the verb "to see"	• I have not seen any of the Star Wars films. They don't interest me. ⇒ I saw a really big dog the other day! It was beautiful.